

PASTURELAND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (RMS)

Guidance Documents for MLRA 130 – Blue Ridge and 136 – Southern Piedmont

There is extensive acreage of pastureland in this MLRA associated with beef and dairy production. Soil types are primarily well drained with a potential for excessive erosion rates if not properly protected. Typical pasture would be on soils with an unacceptable erosion hazard if cropped with clean tilled annually crops. Also, these soils frequently have a limited available water holding capacity and low natural fertility.

The two RMS's in this option differ in that the first RMS is managed for pasture and hay production using conventional cultural practices while the second RMS is used for an animal waste disposal area in association with forage production.

The representative resource considerations for these soils and the production of forage crops are:

- Streambank and critical area erosion
- pH and low natural fertility
- Surface water contamination from improper application of animal waste, pesticides, sediment, and turbidity.
- Limited aquatic habitat suitability
- Lack of timely forage because of cool and warm season plant adaptability
- Inadequate food and cover for wildlife

PRACTICE	
OPTION I	
342	Critical Area Planting
382	Fencing
472	Livestock Exclusion
512	Pasture and Hay Planting
528-A	Prescribed Grazing
574	Spring Development
575	Animal Trails and Walkways
728	Stream Crossing
614	Watering Facility
645	Wildlife Upland Habitat Management
590	Nutrient Management
595	Pest Management

PASTURELAND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (RMS)

Guidance Documents for MLRA 153-B – Tidewater Area

There is limited acreage of pastureland in this MLRA. Soil types range from excessively drained such as the Tarboro series to poorly drained Tomotley series. The typical pasture would be on relative flat land that has an internal drainage problem.

The representative resource consideration for these soils and for pasture production are:

- Streambank erosion from cattle use and access
- Soil compaction
- Excess animal waste
- Surface water contamination from organics, nutrients, and suspended sediments
- Affects of pollution on aquatic habitat suitability
- Lack of plant variety, vigor, and forage production
- Inadequate animal and wildlife food, cover, and shelter

PRACTICE	
OPTION I	
512	Pasture and Hay Planting
590	Nutrient Management
595	Pest Management
528-A	Prescribed Grazing
382	Fencing
633	Waste Utilization